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SIERRA COUNTY.—*Sierra Valley:* The hay crop is turning out well, but the grain crop will be light.

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AMADOR COUNTY.—*Ione:* The first rain of the season

For information regarding the agricultural and other resources of the State of California, apply to either of the parties below.

JAMES A. BARWICK,
Director California Weather Service, Sacramento, Cal.

EDWIN F. SMITH,
Secretary State Agricultural Society, Sacramento, Cal.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—WEATHER BUREAU.

WEATHER--CROP BULLETIN

OF THE

CALIFORNIA WEATHER SERVICE,

ISSUED IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Crop Bulletin No. 23. **Headquarters: Sacramento, Cal.** **Week ending Sept. 11, 1893.**

WEATHER AND CROP SYNOPSIS FOR CALIFORNIA.

The sources from which we obtain our crop data consist of exchanges with one hundred and thirty newspapers, covering each county in the State, except Alpine and Tuolumne; from thirty to fifty special crop reporters; also, telegrams received from the Observers in charge of the Weather Bureau Stations at Red Bluff, Fresno, and Los Angeles, who also issue weekly crop bulletins. The Director of the California Weather Service thus has full and ample data from which to furnish complete and reliable information each week of the general conditions of all kinds of growing and maturing crops.

The average temperature during the week ending September 11th was: For San Francisco, 62°; Red Bluff, 76°; Sacramento, 64°; Fresno, 78°, and Los Angeles, 71°. As compared with the normal temperature, the heat deficiency was found to be very great, it being 2° below at San Francisco, 14° at Red Bluff, 8° at Sacramento, 12° at Fresno, and 5° at Los Angeles.

The precipitation during the same time was 0.20 of an inch at San Francisco, 1.10 inches at Red Bluff, 0.22 of an inch at Sacramento, 0.05 of an inch at Fresno, and nothing at Los Angeles. As compared with the normal precipitation there is found to be an excess of 0.19 of an inch at San Francisco, 0.96 of an inch at Red Bluff, 0.15 of an inch at Sacramento, 0.05 of an inch at Fresno, and nothing, or normal, at Los Angeles. It will be readily seen that the greatest excesses were north of Sacramento County, from which county going southward the excess rapidly diminishes, showing that the great raisin and fruit-drying districts of the San Joaquin Valley received but little, if any, rain; but in the coast counties, the Napa Valley, the upper Sacramento Valley, the foothills, and the Vaca Valley district damage occurred to drying fruit and grapes. The grapes and late peaches will be slightly damaged in the foothills. At San Rafael, Marin County, there was 1.87 inches measured, and for the season 2.11 inches; at Napa heavy showers fell in the valley; Blocksburg, Humboldt County, 0.75 of an inch, being the first storm of the season. No doubt if clear, pleasant, and warmer weather prevails the coming week the damage to all crops will be very slight.

The Observer at Red Bluff reports by telegraph as follows: "Abnormally low temperatures, with exceptionally heavy rains for the season, has done considerable damage to drying fruit and grapes on the vines."

The Observer at Fresno reports by telegraph as follows: "Temperature deficiencies for the year 559°. Ripening and sugaring of grapes much retarded, and those picked are curing very slowly. The outlook gloomy for raisin growers."

The Observer at Los Angeles reports by telegraph as follows: "Weather cool for season; warmer needed for fruit drying and raisin making. Oranges growing finely. A lot of dried peaches have been sold for 7½ cents per pound."

The Santa Clara County Fruit Exchange says:

is being gathered. There was a slight shower of rain Wednesday; no damage was done to the raisins or fruit in the drying yards.

GLENN COUNTY.—*Willows:* A slight shower of rain on Wednesday, but not enough to damage the crops.

BUTTE COUNTY.—*Gridley:* On Wednesday and Friday quite a rainfall occurred, cooling and clearing the atmosphere. The dried fruit was hastily protected as far as possible, with but little loss, but some peaches were knocked off the trees and ruined. *Palermo:* In all our orchards of from three to five years of age, the greatest possible activity is being displayed in handling the ripening crops; the fruit (on account of low prices) is being mostly dried.

PLACER COUNTY.—*Newcastle:* There was quite a rainfall Saturday night, but no damage is reported.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY.—*Orangevale:* Almonds are being gathered from the various orchards. *Folsom:* The first rain of the season was on Wednesday, accompanied by thunder and lightning. *Galt:* Large quantities of summer-fallow wheat is being sowed in this section, and the average will be larger than for many years. *Sacramento:* There was 0.06 of an inch of rain precipitated on Wednesday, the 6th, and 0.16 of an inch on Sunday night, the 10th, but no damage has as yet been reported, only the retardation of fruit drying, caused by the accompanying cloudy weather. Hop picking is rapidly progressing, and the yield is good.

YOLO COUNTY.—*Knight's Landing:* The rains here did some damage to hay. The bean and corn crops are very promising. *Cacheville:* Fruit drying is at its height in the different orchards, peaches and prunes being the only varieties that are now being handled. *Davisville:* The rain appears to have done no material damage to the raisin growers, except to delay their operations a short time. Grape picking for raisins will begin the coming week in the Briggs vineyard. *Dunnigan:* Large forces of men are now employed in our vineyards picking grapes. Fair and moderately warm weather is therefore very much to be desired by the vineyardists and the farmers as well, as early rains in the fall almost invariably indicate a lack of rain in the spring, when it is most needed.

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bound.

The Santa Clara County Fruit Exchange says:

The business of the Exchange for this season is very clearly showing both the power of organized action and the difficulty of maintaining it in first starting. When some weeks since speculators attacked the prune market by short sales at low prices, the Exchange by its explanation of the methods employed, and their object, prevented the panic which was expected in the market here; the Exchange, also, by printing tables showing the relations of the prices of green fruit to those of the dried product, has been largely instrumental in preventing the market from being flooded with cheap fruit purchased in this way.

Still, as was to be expected, we have not been able to prevent large numbers of orchardists from parting with their green prunes at low rates, and as no buyer this season is able to hold his fruit a day longer than he can help, some of this fruit has been offered during the past ten days at any price which would let the buyers out—usually 4½ to 4¾ cents for the four sizes, which of course has prevented sales at any higher rates. Add to this the fact that the county is full of active men who can out-talk most farmers and who can make more money if the Exchange does not control the fruit, and we have the key to the prune situation. The buyers have been, as in former years, smart enough to get a large number of orchardists competing with each other. If they keep it up the Exchange will either have to sell its fruit at the same prices, or keep it until all the scared and weak men have sold out. But some of the Exchange men must also have money and the Exchange will take that course which seems necessary and wise under the circumstances. The remedy for the whole thing is to concentrate all the fruit in the Exchange, and sell as fast as the market will take it at fair prices considering the times.

The market for peaches is very active at 6 cents for choice, and from 7 to 7½ cents for extra and fancy.

Apricots are selling freely at 7½ to 8 cents for choice, and 8¼ to 10 cents for the better grades. Those who have peaches or apricots and intending to sell through the Exchange, should deliver them promptly, that they may be sold and shipped, to give room for the prunes, as they come.

The terms "choice," "fancy," and the like, as applied to peaches and apricots, seem to have no such definite meaning as would prevent almost any decent fruit from being accepted on a sale of "choice" if the buyer wanted them at time of delivery, or rejected if he did not want them. As a step toward remedying this the Exchange has decided to hereafter make four grades of these goods, numbering them 1, 2, 3, and 4. Number 1 being the best, and to grade each lot of fruit as delivered, assigning it to that grade which best fits it.

Prunes have sold up to the present time at 5 cents for the four sizes. The market, however, for the reasons above stated is yielding; 4¾ cents for the four sizes, and 5 cents for the five sizes in sacks is the selling price. It is the belief of the officers of the Exchange that prunes when ready for shipment will take the same upward tendency that has attended both peaches and apricots, and that 5 cents will be the selling price.

The highest and lowest temperatures were 101°, at Upper Lake, Lake County, and 42°, at Kelseyville, Lake County.

Mean Temperature, Maximum and Minimum Temperatures, and Rainfall for the Week Ending September 11, 1893.

Stations.	Counties.	Mean Temp.	Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.	Rain—Inches.
Eureka	Humboldt	54	68	48	.00
Red Bluff	Tehama	62	82	54	1.10
Upper Lake	Lake	67	101	45	T.
Kelseyville	Lake	64	87	42	.15
Newcastle	Placer	64	87	49	Rain.
Sacramento	Sacramento	64	76	49	.22
San Francisco	San Francisco	60	74	56	.20
Turlock	Stanislaus	61	88	50	T.
Santa Maria	Santa Barbara	60	70	47	.00
Chino	San Bernardino	72	88	57	T.

Siskiyou County.—*Yreka:* A light rain, accompanied with thunder and lightning, will be of benefit, because it will put out the forest fires. All fruit and vegetable men have fine crops of apples, peaches, plums, and garden truck of every description. The hay yield is a heavy one. *Fort Jones:* Our agricultural districts have made an abundant hay harvest, also grain and products.

Trinity County.—*Weaverville:* The showers this week measured 0.29 of an inch, making a total to date of 0.32 of an inch. *Trinity Center:* Sheep shearing is in full blast. The farmers are busily engaged in baling and hauling their hay to market.

Del Norte County.—*Crescent City:* The longest known dry spell to this county for many years was terminated Wednesday night by a slight shower. Mr. Allen, of Smith River Valley, says the rain caught a portion of his hay crop down; his other crops, such as grain, beans, potatoes, and corn, have turned out remarkably well.

Shasta County.—*Happy Valley:* Our grape crop is the largest ever known.

Lake County.—*Kelseyville:* Grain, fruit, hops, etc.,

showers of rain, but no damage as yet reported. The prices received for fruit in the East have been more satisfactory this week, and an increased demand for dried fruit has brightened the countenances of many growers.

Sonoma County.—*Santa Rosa:* There is every indication that fruit will bring better prices presently. Green fruit has already brought better figures than were promised at first. Eight dollars per ton for grapes is being offered at Guerneville. On Wednesday, 0.25 of an inch of rain fell in Alexander and Dry Creek Valleys, and a downpour at Sonoma, accompanied by thunder and lightning. *Healdsburg:* Hop picking has commenced. *Petaluma:* The Magnolia Cannery has shipped in the last two weeks 25 carloads of canned goods. *Cloverdale:* The corn crop this season is a most excellent one. Mrs. Solomon, of Sonoma, sold 50 tons of prunes from her orchard for $28 per ton.

Sierra County.—*Sierra Valley:* The hay crop is turning out well, but the grain crop will be light.

Inyo County.—*Big Pine:* Apples, pears, plums, grapes, strawberries, and blackberries have been an abundant crop this season.

Amador County.—*Ione:* The first rain of the season occurred on Wednesday, but was a light one.

Contra Costa County.—*Crockett:* The fruit down this way is better than it has been for years.

Calaveras County.—The first rains of the season began on Wednesday, and was a good, smart wetting.

Mariposa County.—*Mariposa:* A heavy grape crop is reported from all the vineyards in the county. Wednesday night gave us a fine rain, with just enough of electricity to make the air delightfully pure and fresh. This is early for fall rains to set in, but they are yet too light to do any serious damage.

Stanislaus County.—*Turlock:* Cool nights and mornings, with a trace of rain during the week.

Fresno County.—*Selma:* There is a very large amount of dried fruit being shipped from this point.

Kings County.—*Lemoore:* The electrical storm of Wednesday was as heavy a one as has been seen here in years. The rainfall amounted to 0.61 of an inch.

Tulare County.—*Tulare:* Thrashing is not yet finished, and will not be for some weeks. Fields are full of wheat piled up in the sacks.

Monterey County.—*Pajaro:* Beet hauling will begin the coming week and the factory will start up about ten days later. The crop will be a large one. Apple and prune shipments are daily being made. Hop picking and curing will begin in about two weeks.

San Luis Obispo County.—*Templeton:* The fruit prospects are remarkably assuring this season.

Ventura County.—*Ventura:* The bean crop in the Carpenteria Valley will be very light in many places; but the corn crop will be the largest in years. *Hueneme:* Bean cutting is progressing rapidly, and the crop will be large.

Orange County.—*Tustin:* The prune crop is an unusually large one. It is being dried almost entirely by private parties.

Los Angeles County.—*Downey:* Mr. James T. Dunn is storing his crop of barley, which amounts to upwards of 10,000 sacks.

San Bernardino County.—*Chino:* Sugar output to date is about six million pounds. *Redlands:* Fruit growers are drying almost the whole of their crop in anticipation of better prices prevailing this fall. The orchards are looking unusually well, and the citrus fruit prospect is excellent, the trees being pretty well loaded with green fruit. The raisin crop of this county is said to be larger this year than ever before known.

Riverside County.—*Moreno:* Thrashing continues in the valley, and the crop will not all be harvested for several weeks yet. *Beaumont:* Fruit growers being unable to sell, are drying their crops, and barley raisers are waiting for a rise in the market. In the peach-growing

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SOLANO COUNTY.—*Dixon:* Cloudy weather and slight showers of rain, but no damage as yet reported. The prices received for fruit in the East have been more satisfactory this week, and an increased demand for dried fruit has brightened the countenances of many growers.

SONOMA COUNTY.—*Santa Rosa:* There is every indication that fruit will bring better prices presently. Green fruit has already brought better figures than were promised at first. Eight dollars per ton for grapes is being offered at Guerneville. On Wednesday, 0.25 of an inch of rain fell in Alexander and Dry Creek Valleys, and a downpour at Sonoma, accompanied by thunder and lightning. *Healdsburg:* Hop picking has commenced. *Petaluma:* The Magnolia Cannery has shipped in the last two weeks 25 carloads of canned goods. *Cloverdale:* The corn crop this season is a most excellent one. Mrs. Solomon, of Sonoma, sold 50 tons of prunes from her orchard for $28 per ton.

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San Francisco	San Francisco	60	74	56	.20
Turlock	Stanislaus	61	88	50	T.
Santa Maria	Santa Barbara	60	70	47	.00
Chino	San Bernardino	72	88	57	T.

SISKIYOU COUNTY.—*Yreka:* A light rain, accompanied with thunder and lightning, will be of benefit, because it will put out the forest fires. All fruit and vegetable men have fine crops of apples, peaches, plums, and garden truck of every description. The hay yield is a heavy one. *Fort Jones:* Our agricultural districts have made an abundant hay harvest, also grain and products.

TRINITY COUNTY.—*Weaverville:* The showers this week measured 0.29 of an inch, making a total to date of 0.32 of an inch. *Trinity Center:* Sheep shearing is in full blast. The farmers are busily engaged in baling and hauling their hay to market.

DEL NORTE COUNTY.—*Crescent City:* The longest known dry spell to this county for many years was terminated Wednesday night by a slight shower. Mr. Allen, of Smith River Valley, says the rain caught a portion of his hay crop down; his other crops, such as grain, beans, potatoes, and corn, have turned out remarkably well.

SHASTA COUNTY.—*Happy Valley:* Our grape crop is the largest ever known.

LAKE COUNTY.—*Kelseyville:* Grain, fruit, hops, etc., are about up to the average in amount, and of fair quality, but prices are so low in the general markets that there is no inducement to sell.

SUTTER COUNTY.—*Southwest Sutter:* Corn and buckwheat in this vicinity is looking well. *Nicolaus:* Hop picking continues briskly. *Yuba City:* The almond crop reported from all the vineyards in the county. Wednesday night gave us a fine rain, with just enough of electricity to make the air delightfully pure and fresh. This is early for fall rains to set in, but they are yet too light to do any serious damage.

STANISLAUS COUNTY.—*Turlock:* Cool nights and mornings, with a trace of rain during the week.

FRESNO COUNTY.—*Selma:* There is a very large amount of dried fruit being shipped from this point.

KINGS COUNTY.—*Lemoore:* The electrical storm of Wednesday was as heavy a one as has been seen here in years. The rainfall amounted to 0.61 of an inch.

TULARE COUNTY.—*Tulare:* Thrashing is not yet finished, and will not be for some weeks. Fields are full of wheat piled up in the sacks.

MONTEREY COUNTY.—*Pajaro:* Beet hauling will begin the coming week and the factory will start up about ten days later. The crop will be a large one. Apple and prune shipments are daily being made. Hop picking and curing will begin in about two weeks.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY.—*Templeton:* The fruit prospects are remarkably assuring this season.

VENTURA COUNTY.—*Ventura:* The bean crop in the Carpenteria Valley will be very light in many places; but the corn crop will be the largest in years. *Hueneme:* Bean cutting is progressing rapidly, and the crop will be large.

ORANGE COUNTY.—*Tustin:* The prune crop is an unusually large one. It is being dried almost entirely by private parties.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY.—*Downey:* Mr. James T. Dunn is storing his crop of barley, which amounts to upwards of 10,000 sacks.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY.—*Chino:* Sugar output to date is about six million pounds. *Redlands:* Fruit growers are drying almost the whole of their crop in anticipation of better prices prevailing this fall. The orchards are looking unusually well, and the citrus fruit prospect is excellent, the trees being pretty well loaded with green fruit. The raisin crop of this county is said to be larger this year than ever before known.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY.—*Moreno:* Thrashing continues in the valley, and the crop will not all be harvested for several weeks yet. *Beaumont:* Fruit growers being unable to sell, are drying their crops, and barley raisers are waiting for a rise in the market. In the peach-growing sections of Southern California, peaches are cheaper than hay, the former bringing $10 a ton, and the latter $11.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY.—*Julian:* The nights are becoming quite cool. The superior quality of the fruit of this valley is giving it a wide reputation. *San Marcos:* Corn crop will be an immense one.

For information regarding the agricultural and other resources of the State of California, apply to either of the parties below.

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Director California Weather Service, Sacramento, Cal.

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